

SAFC - 6331  
Copy 2 of 9

**MEMORANDUM FOR: HQ, USAF**  
**AFMIG-45**

**ATTENTION : Col. R. A. Berg**

**SUBJECT : AQUATONE Security Concept Applicable to**  
**Air Force Concurrent Program**

1. Our recent conference, 8 May 1956, in Project Headquarters with USAF representatives indicated the urgent need for an early decision on the AQUATONE security policy which directly influences the initiation of the USAF related U-2 program. It is our purpose insofar as security will permit to give the USAF freedom of action sufficiently to start and carry out its program.

2. Listed below are the factors regarding the Project AQUATONE which must be protected in any USAF program:

- a. U-2 performance and equipment capabilities.
- b. AQUATONE mission and Agency sponsorship.
- c. Disassociation of U-2 and equipment from any Tactical Air Force Command sponsorship or operation.
- d. U-2 and equipment procurement channels.

3. To insure proper control the following measures are considered applicable:

- a. Restriction of USAF program information to USAF project on need to know basis.
- b. USAF programmed personnel have clearances as follows:

(1) All personnel aware of Project AQUATONE must have a Top Secret clearance consisting

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-2-

of National Agency Checks and background investigations. In addition to personnel knowledgeable at Headquarters levels, this would include individuals working in [redacted] or contacting Project Headquarters or the overseas detachments.

(2) All personnel in the warehousing and maintenance categories and those visiting or in training with Aquatone suppliers but who will not have access to those installations listed in para 3.b(1) above must have a Secret clearance consisting of not less than a National Agency Check and favorable military record. Additionally those USAF officers or airmen training with suppliers who are to be stationed under USAF orders at any of the installations listed in para 3.b(1) above must have finalized a Top Secret clearance consisting of National Agency Checks and background investigation during their training period and prior to transfer.

(3) All others in the USAF project can have USAF approved clearance.

c. Prior to participation in Project affairs, Aquatone Headquarters will be furnished the names of USAF personnel within the categories of b, (1) and (2) above together with certification concerning appropriate clearance. Furthermore, the USAF certification concerning appropriate clearance normally will be honored by this Agency to the extent that no additional approval will be required from the Agency. However, this Agency reserves the right to spot check USAF certified clearances to see if Agency criteria are being met.

d. Whenever any USAF project personnel coming within the scope of para 3.b(1) and (2) above plan to visit any of Project Aquatone's installations or suppliers, their names and itinerary will be furnished Aquatone Project Headquarters so that appropriate notification of visit can be sent to such installations.

h. It is requested that the USAF plan for activation and operation of its program embody the items listed herein (para 2 and 3) together with an appropriate cover story. Furthermore, this Headquarters would appreciate reviewing the USAF program prior to any implementing action.

5. Ninety days from the commencement of active operations the security aspects of the concurrent Air Force program and the standards suggested by this Agency will be reviewed with appropriate Air Force

SECRET

-3-

officials to ascertain whether modification can be accomplished. Moreover, it is anticipated that this matter will be afforded periodic review as found desirable by the USAF or Agency.

J. A. <sup>SIGNED</sup> PEBBS  
Col., USAF

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18 May 56

JAG 23 May 56 (rev p 2 & 3)